



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

12 February 2023

Timothy Do-Cambridge
Sakata Seed America, Inc
18095 Serene Dr.
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Certified Mail
7022 2410 0001 5093 5489

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

**WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL FOOD PROCESSORS, WINERIES, AND RELATED AGRICULTURAL PROCESSORS WITHIN THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
ORDER R5-2020-0002-0106
SAKATA SEED AMERICA, INC
YOLO COUNTY**

On 20 February 2020, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) adopted the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors, Wineries, and Related Agricultural Processors within the Central Valley Region, Order R5-2020-0002 (Waiver).

We are in receipt of your Notice of Intent (NOI) dated 1 December 2022, which stated that you intend to comply with the Tier 3 conditions of the Waiver. Based on the information provided in the NOI, we have determined that the discharge meets the required conditions for approval under the Waiver. You are hereby assigned Order **R5-2020-0002-0106**. A copy of the Waiver is enclosed and also available at the [Central Valley Water Boards Adopted Orders: Waivers webpage](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/#waivers) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/#waivers).

Please familiarize yourself with the contents of the Waiver, including the Conditions of Discharge (Waiver Attachment A) and Monitoring and Reporting Program (Waiver Attachment B). Waste must be managed and discharged in accordance with the requirements contained in the Conditions of Discharge and with the information submitted in the NOI.

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Sakata Seed America, Inc owns and operates an agricultural and seed research facility located at 13459 County Road 100, Woodland in Yolo County as shown on Attachment A. The facility includes seed production for commercial seed crops, and the milling, storing, and shipping of seeds to distributors and growers. Tier 3 allows land application of up to 1,000,000 gallons of wastewater per year for irrigation of

landscaping or crops and land application of residual solids associated with that volume of wastewater. A minimum of one acre of land application area per 100,000 gallons of discharged wastewater and associated residual solids is required. Any process wastewater or residual solids generated in excess of those amounts must be disposed of off-site at an appropriately permitted facility.

The primary processing season is from August through October. Process wastewater is generated from the seed washing operations. The Discharger anticipates approximately 500,000 gallons of process wastewater and approximately 3 tons of residual solids (leaves, stems, skins, pulp, and diatomaceous earth) to be generated annually.

Process wastewater drains to a storage vault/sump, through solids separator equipment, then discharged to a 5-acre land application area (LAA). Application is by drip or sprinkle irrigation. Perennial grasses are grown during the growing season and mechanically harvested. The location of the LAA is shown on Attachment A. Residual solids may be applied to the LAA or hauled off-site to a landfill, composting facility, or other recycling facility.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

Attachment B of the Waiver includes specific monitoring and reporting requirements that you must comply with, including routine monitoring and reporting to the Central Valley Water Board. Please review the Monitoring and Reporting Program closely and establish the appropriate record keeping system so that you are able to complete the required Annual Monitoring Report form, which is also contained in Attachment B of the Waiver.

By **February 1 of each year**, the Annual Monitoring Report must be submitted to our office, even if there is no discharge during the reporting year. The 2023 Annual Monitoring Report is due by **1 February 2024**.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Waiver includes specific and general conditions with which you must comply and you must maintain control over the discharge and operate in accordance with the information provided in your NOI and this Notice of Applicability (NOA). Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the facility name, location, and details of the proposed discharge. Failure to comply with the requirements of the Waiver may result in enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code, which could include civil liability. Discharge of wastes not described in the Conditions of Discharge (Attachment A) of the Waiver is prohibited.

Note that the Waiver will expire on **20 February 2025**, after which you must do one of the following:

1. Submit a new NOI with a filing fee (if required) to obtain coverage under a subsequently adopted waiver,

2. Submit a NOI with a filing fee to apply for individual or general Waste Discharge Requirements, or
3. Cease the discharge.

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

The Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting. The Basin Plan Amendments were conditionally approved by the State Water Board on 16 October 2019 and the Office of Administrative Law on 15 January 2020. For the Nitrate Control Program, the facility falls within the Colusa Subbasin, a Non-Prioritized Groundwater Basin; so, no action is required at this time. For salinity, the Discharger has elected the Alternative Salinity Permitting Approach (participation in the Priority and Optimization Study [P&O] Study) under Pathway Option 2. The Discharger was issued **CV-SALTS ID 3625**.

As these strategies are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this Order to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Programs are met. This order may be amended or modified to incorporate newly applicable requirements. More information regarding this regulatory planning process can be found on the Central Valley Water Board [CV-SALTS website](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity). (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity)

DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to: centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov.

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email or any documentation submitted to the mailing address for this office:

Facility Name: Sakata Seed America, Yolo County
Program: Non-15 Compliance
Order: R5-2020-0002-0106
CIWQS Place ID: 846959

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
ECM Mailroom
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Now that the NOA has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Brendan Kenny is your new point of contact

for any questions about the Waiver. If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Brendan will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Brendan at (916) 464-4635 or at brendan.kenny@waterboards.ca.gov.

for Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

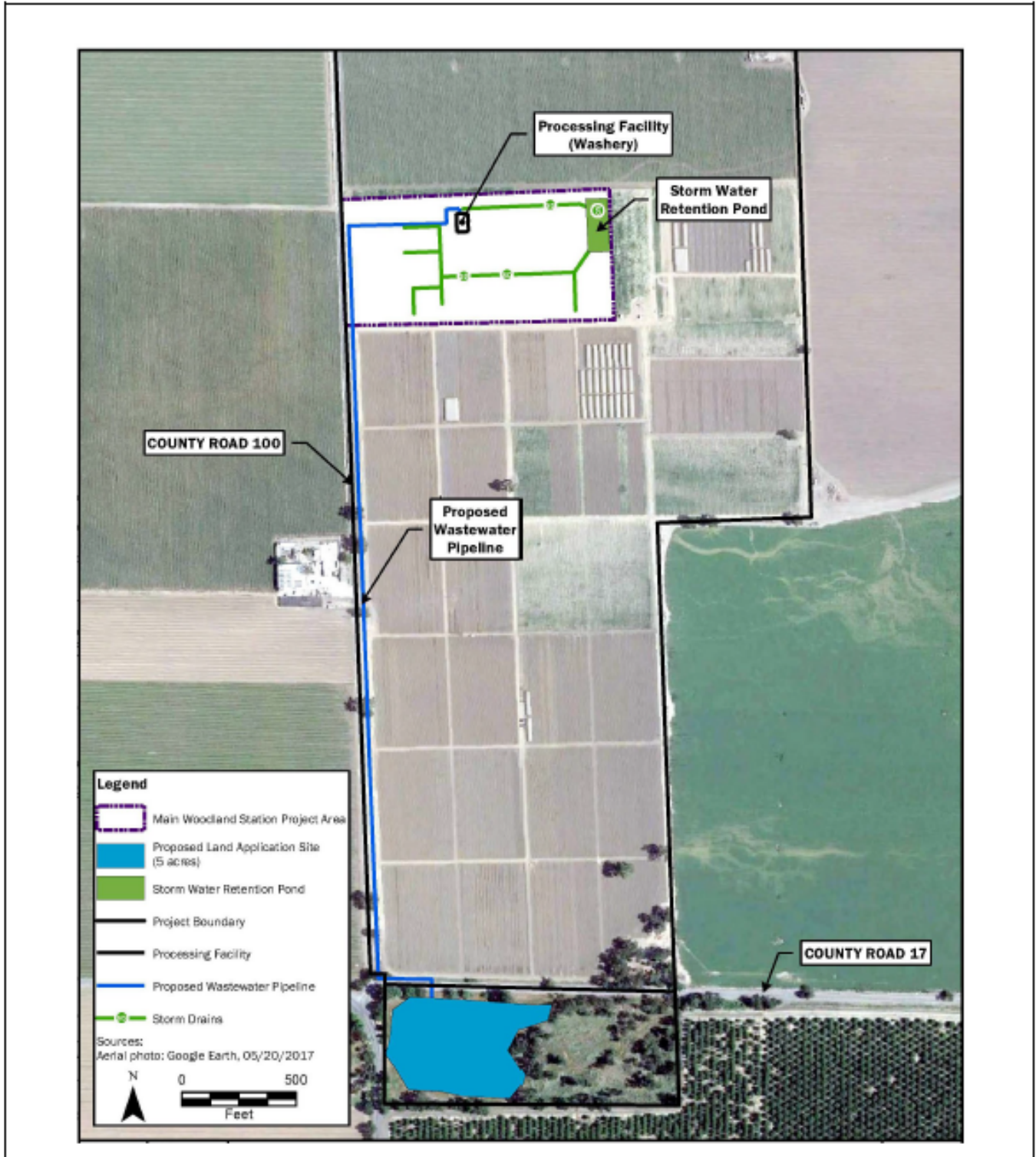
Encl:

Attachment A – Location Map
Conditional Waiver of WDRs, Order R5-2020-0002 (Discharger only)

Cc via email:

Deborah Anderson, Yolo County Environmental Health
Howard Hold, Central Valley Water Quality Control Board
Brendan Kenny, Central Valley Water Quality Control Board
Brian Delemos, Sakata Seed America, Inc.

ATTACHMENT A



Source:
Notice of Intent
December 2022

LOCATION MAP
Sakata Seed America, Inc
Yolo County

Approximate
Scale:
As Noted Above